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PAGES MISSING

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ACTION G-00

INFO LOG-00 OASY-00 ANHR-01 TEDE-00 ADS-00 SS-00 /001W  
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FM AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BUJUMBURA 000106

DEPARTMENT FOR U/S WIRTH AND PM DAS COOK  
USMISSION USUN FOR AMBASSADOR INDERFURTH

E.O.: 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PREF, PHUM, PREL, PGOV, PINS, RW, BY  
SUBJECT: FORCED CLOSURE OF CAMPS IN SOUTHWEST  
RWANDA CREATES REFUGEES THAT CAUSE UNREST IN  
BURUNDI

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY. OVER THE WEEKEND, AMBASSADOR KRUEGER  
STAYED TWO DAYS

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THE RWANDAN BORDER. DURING  
THE WEEKEND, HEAVY REFUGEE FLOWS CAME INTO THIS  
A LONG-TIME PICKUP POINT FOR UNHCR TO  
GATHER RWANDAN REFUGEES. REPORTS FROM THESE  
REFUGEES, INCLUDING A RWANDAN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR  
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SUGGEST FAR MORE PEOPLE KILLED IN THIS BORDER AREA ON JANUARY 6-7 IN THE FORCED CLOSURE OF RWANDAN CAMPS THAN WERE REPORTED BY VOICE OF AMERICA AND BURUNDI RADIO. FURTHER, INTERVIEWS WITH THIS AND OTHER REFUGEES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE AMBASSADOR INDICATE THAT BURUNDI MILITARY IN THIS AREA ARE NOW DRIVING RWANDAN REFUGEES BACK INTO RWANDA, LEAVING THE REFUGEES TO SERVE AS PING-PONG BALLS BOUNCING OFF THE BAYONETS OF THE RPF AND BURUNDI FORCES. END SUMMARY.

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BACKGROUND  
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3. ON JANUARY 6-8, AMBASSADOR KRUEGER VISITED [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE  
RWANDAN BORDER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] VIEWS THE EVENTS OF THE WEEKEND AS "A NEW  
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SITUATION", VERY THREATENING, BECAUSE HE IS  
CONVINCED THERE IS A COMPLICITY BETWEEN THE  
BURUNDI MILITARY AND THE RPF IN THEIR TORMENTING  
OF THE REFUGEES: "THEY ARE LIKE A PING-PONG BALL"  
BOUNCING OFF THE BAYONETS OF THE TWO OPPOSING  
FORCES. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT BURUNDI  
SOLDIERS, WHOM HE AND I BOTH INTERVIEWED, WOULD  
NOW BE PATROLLING DAY AND NIGHT, AND DETERRING  
RWANDAN REFUGEES FROM ENTERING BURUNDI, WITHOUT

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AUTHORIZATION FROM HIGH MILITARY AUTHORITIES. OUR INTERVIEWS WITH REFUGEES MADE CLEAR THAT THESE SAME BURUNDI SOLDIERS WERE USING THREATS, ABUSE, AND GUNFIRE TO DRIVE REFUGEES BACK INTO RWANDA.

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4. [ ] SAYS THIS IS ALSO A "NEW SITUATION" BECAUSE, FOR THE FIRST TIME, AMONG OVER 7,000 REFUGEES PASSING THROUGH RUBURA MISSION IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, THE NEW REFUGEES INCLUDE PEOPLE WHO HAVE HAD DIRECT UNAMIR PROTECTION. UNDER CAREFUL QUESTIONING, A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR BELIEVED THAT THE RPF HAD SLAUGHTERED 1,000 PEOPLE AT THE CAMP IN NSHILI BETWEEN FRIDAY NIGHT, JANUARY 6 AND THE NEXT MORNING. OTHER REFUGEES ESTIMATED THE TOTAL AT 750. THOSE NUMBERS ARE PROBABLY INFLATED, BUT THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT THERE WAS HEAVY KILLING. GUNFIRE WAS HEARD FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE RUBURA MISSION, AS WERE NEARBY HELICOPTERS THE NEXT DAY. BUT LET THE STORY BEGIN.

5. FROM THURSDAY TO SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 5-7,  
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153 RWANDAN REFUGEES ARRIVED [ ]

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[ ] BURUNDI SOLDIERS, WHO ARRIVED [ ]

[ ] AT 0700 AND AGAIN AT 1400 ON JANUARY 7, REPLACED THEIR CUSTOMARY COURTESY WITH RUDENESS AND AGGRESSION TOWARD REFUGEES.

SEPARATELY, THEY TOOK TWO REFUGEES, KEEPING ONE OVERNIGHT, RETURNING THE OTHER AFTER TWO HOURS. THE MILITARY MADE NO PRETENSE TO HAVE PREVIOUS INFORMATION ABOUT THE REFUGEES THEY SELECTED FOR "QUESTIONING." [ ] WITNESSED THEM SIMPLY REMOVE ONE OF THEM FROM A GROUP, TAKE HIM AWAY, AND RETURN HIM AFTER A SLIGHT BEATING. [ ] I INTERVIEWED A NUMBER OF THE REFUGEES WHO HAD MADE THEIR WAY ACROSS THE BORDER DURING THE NIGHT. MANY OF THEM HAD BEEN SEPARATED FROM FAMILY MEMBERS WHO WERE DRIVEN BACK TO RWANDA BY THE BURUNDI MILITARY. SOME HAD BEGUN THEIR JOURNEYS FROM CYANIKA, NEAR GIKMGORO; OTHERS BEGAN IN

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RUNYEMBYI, OR NDAGO. THE BURUNDI SOLDIERS, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] WERE ALL FROM THE IJENE GARRISON, A FEW  
MILES AWAY [REDACTED]

1.4(D)

6. SATURDAY MORNING, [REDACTED]  
ARRIVED TO TELL HIM THAT, ABOUT FIVE MILES AWAY,  
HE HAD SEEN FIVE DEAD BODIES OF REFUGEES REMOVED  
FROM THE MWOGERE RIVER, BETWEEN RWIRA AND RUHINGA.  
ALL WERE YOUNG MEN WHO HAD BEEN TAKEN BY THE  
BURUNDI MILITARY JANUARY 6 AT 1800, WHILE THE  
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WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THEIR GROUP HAD BEEN DRIVEN  
BACK TO RWANDA.

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[REDACTED] VISIT TO RUNYEMBYI, RWANDA EARLIER IN THE  
WEEK  
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7. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] RETURNED TO VISIT THERE JANUARY  
3-4, 1995. THERE HE MET VITAL SENKINDI, THE  
DIRECTOR OF THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND NON-ACADEMIC  
EMPLOYEES OF THIS FORMER BOARDING SCHOOL. ALL ITS  
DORMITORIES ARE NOW EMPTY, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE

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